വ്യവസായ കമ്പനികൾ

*൯൯൯ (൩൪) ശ്രീ. എ. എൽ. ജേക്കബ്: താഴെ പറയുന്ന ചോദ്യത്തിന് ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട വ്യവസായമന്ത്രി സദയം മറുപടി നൽകുമോ.—

കഴിഞ്ഞ ഒരു വർഷത്തിനുള്ളിൽ വ്യവസായ കമ്പനികൾ വാങ്ങുവാൻ നമ്മുടെ ഗവണ്മെൻറ് ഇതുവരെ എത്ര രൂപാ ചിലവാക്കിയിട്ടുണ്ട്?

വിദ്യാഭ്യാസവും, ഭക്ഷ്യവും, തൊഴിലും, വകുപ്പുമന്ത്രി (ശ്രീ. ടി. കെ. നാരായണപിള്ള):

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SOIL OF THE KARI LANDS

***1000.** [34] **Sri. P. Gopalan:** Will the Hon'ble the Chief Minister be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether a Special Officer has been appointed to experiment with the soil of the Kari lands at Vaikom and Thottappally;

(*b*) has he made any research work there; and

(*c*) if the answer to (*b*) is in the affirmative, what is his advice as to the nature of the manure to be applied in these lands and also the means of avoiding the defects of acidity?

Minister for Education, Food and Labour **(Sri. T. K. Narayana Pillai):** (*a*) Yes. He is attending to cultivation experiments, in the Thottappally—Purakad Section at present.

(*b*) Yes.

*(*c*) A brief report on the scope and progress of his work is placed on the table.

Vide answer to question No. 1000 (34)

*RECLAMATION OF KARI SOILS

The Kari soils of Travancore cover an aggregate area of about 50,000 acres. They are noted for their low lying location and infertile nature. Several areas of submerged lands have been successfully reclaimed in the Kuttanad area. The Kari areas are a portion of Kuttanad and these could also be reclaimed if their toxic nature of the soil be remedied. Work on the nature of inhibition on plant growth existing in these soils has shown that the development of acidity is primarily responsible for the wilting of plants. The acidity is caused by mineral acids formed as a result of oxidation of sulphur and its compounds when these soils are exposed to air and dried. Deposits of yellow salts found in the surface of these soils are due to the formation of sulphates of Iron and Aluminium. The source of sulphur is the wood fossils lying embedded in these soils.

Drying of the soil brings about the production of acidity and experiments show that top soils by themselves contain sufficient sulphur compounds to produce acidity on drying. The formation of acids can be considerably suppressed if the soils are given the minimum drying. But the condition of the soil is such that unless the soil is exposed to air the nitrogen compounds will not break down to available forms. It is a common observation that plants yellow if the soil is not exposed to air. This yellowing is due to nitrogen starvation. By occasional exposure to air the locked up nitrogen becomes slowly available. Again, sulphides formed during water logging can only be removed on drying. But the soils should not be allowed to dry too much. Drying for 3 or 4 days followed by repeated washing with fresh water is perhaps the ideal treatment. This need be done only 3 or 4 times during the cultivation season.

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